

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-22 (canceled).

Claim 23 (new): A method for determining if an animal has been exposed to a specific hemolysin-producing fungus comprising:

- a. contacting a sample from said animal with labeled antibodies which bind to the hemolysin produced by the fungus or to active fragments of the hemolysin; and
- b. detecting any complex formed between the labeled antibodies and the hemolysin or active fragments thereof.

Claim 24 (new): The method according to claim 24 wherein the sample from the animal is selected from the group consisting of blood, urine, and saliva.

Claim 25 (new): The method according to claim 23 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of enzyme, radioactive, chemiluminescent, and fluorescent labels.

Claim 26 (new): The method according to claim 23 wherein the fungus is selected from the group consisting of *Stachybotrys chartarum*, *Aspergillus fumigatus*, *Candida albicans*, and *Penicillium chrysogenum*.

Claim 27 (new): A method for determining if an animal has been exposed to a specific hemolysin-producing fungus comprising:

- a. contacting a sample from said animal with labeled antibodies which bind to a hemolysin produced by the fungus or to active fragments of the hemolysin produced by the fungus;
- b. detecting any complex formed between the labeled antibody and any hemolysin or active fragments thereof in the sample;
- c. wherein the fungal hemolysin used to prepare the labeled antibodies is isolated by culturing a strain of fungus, removing cells and debris from the culture to recover supernatant, and isolating hemolytically active fractions of fungal hemolysin.

Claim 28 (new): The method according to claim 27 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of enzyme, radioactive, chemiluminescent, and fluorescent labels.

Claim 29 (new): The method according to claim 27 wherein the fungus is selected from the group consisting of *Stachybotrys chartarum*, *Aspergillus fumigatus*, *Candida albicans*, and *Penicillium chrysogenum*.

Claim 30 (new): A method for determining if a building contains a hemolysin-producing fungus comprising:

- a. obtaining a sample from the building;
- b. contacting the sample with labeled antibodies which bind to the fungal hemolysin or to active fragments of the fungal hemolysin; and
- c. detecting any complex formed between the labeled antibodies and the fungal hemolysin or active fragments thereof.

Claim 31 (new): The method according to claim 30 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of enzyme, radioactive, chemiluminescent, and fluorescent labels.

Claim 32 (new): The method according to claim 30 wherein the fungus is selected from the group consisting of *Stachybotrys chartarum*, *Aspergillus fumigatus*, *Candida albicans*, and *Penicillium chrysogenum*.

Claim 33 (new): A method for determining if an animal has been exposed to a specific hemolysin-producing fungus comprising detecting the presence of the hemolysin produced by the fungus in a sample from the animal, the presence of the hemolysin in the sample indicating that the animal has been exposed to the hemolysin-producing fungus.